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LETTER *from* Mr. WILLIAM BEAUFORD, A. B.
to the Rev. GEORGE GRAYDON, LL.B. Secretary to the
Committee of Antiquities, Royal Irish Academy.

S I R,

THE account which Ptolemy the Egyptian geographer has given of the British islands in general, and of Ireland in particular, has been much controverted, respecting its authenticity; some asserting that the names of the places and people mentioned by that ancient writer have not the least foundation in truth, and that no people under such denominations ever existed in this island; whilst others on the contrary contend, that the fourteen tribes given in his tables, comprehend all the nations at that time inhabiting Ireland. Thus circumstanced, the subject may be thought not altogether unworthy of farther consideration, when we shall find perhaps neither of the above assertions perfectly just.

Read Jan.
 16, 1790.

PTOLEMY composed his system of geography from the MSS. in the Alexandrian library, and principally from the works of Marinus Tyrius, a navigator under the Romans, who, we may reasonably presume, collected every discovery made by the Romans on this subject, especially that relative to the British islands,

from the accounts taken about the year 79 by order of Agricola, who was the first that directed a Roman fleet under the command of Demetrius to circumnavigate Great Britain and Ireland. (Euseb. Præp. Ev. l. v. c. 17.) From the discoveries made by this fleet, and the information obtained from merchants trading to these islands, the Romans obtained the first circumstantial account of Ireland. But from these accounts there is reason to imagine, that these merchants knew no more of its internal state, than those to whom Cæsar applied, did of that of Britain. (Comment. 24. 19.) They had indeed traded to the coasts, landed their wares, and perhaps enquired and obtained the name of the district or people with whom they traded; but they made no further discoveries, the internal parts of the country were in a manner unknown to them.

THE names therefore mentioned by Ptolemy, relate only to a few maritime districts. But these districts, both in respect to their names and situation, are far more accurately described than is generally imagined. The latitudes and longitudes are indeed wrong, probably arising from the inaccurate instruments in those times used to take observations. The longitude is taken from Ferro, one of the Canary Islands. But we will pass by the geographical and astronomical errors of our author, and proceed to consider the topographical part of his work, which commences thus:

ΙΟΥΕΡΝΙΑΣ ΝΗΣΟΥ ΒΡΕΤΑΝΝΙΚΗΣ ΘΕΣΙΣ.

IRELAND thus denominated by Ptolemy *Ιουερνιας*, and by Strabo *Ιερνε*, is perfectly agreeable to the indigenous name given to it by the natives from the remotest periods, who always distinguished their

their country by the denomination of *Eirean*, *Erin* or *Ibh Eirean*, pronounced like *Ow Erin* or *Jov Erin*, whence the Greeks could express the sound no otherwise in their language than *Ιερπε* or *Ιουερπια*, nor the Romans than by *Hibernia*. Even the Welsh call it *Yverdon*, and also the Anglo-Saxons, according to Alfred in Orforius, *Ighernia*. The Danes were the first who gave this island the appellation of *Irland* or *Iraland*, or the land of the *Ira*; but which like the others is derived from the indigenous *Ibh Erin*.

HENCE we may observe the care the ancients took to obtain the true names of the countries they discovered; and Ptolemy, in the method he has taken in describing the coast, seems to have followed the real tract of the Roman fleet, which having circumnavigated the northern coasts of Britain, fell in with the western isles, which are thus described, “Demetrius ait, insularum
“ quæ Britanniae adjacent, esse multas desertas—quam pauci ad-
“ modum incoherent, sed qui Britannis sacri omnes erant, et ab
“ omni direptione injuriâque tuti,” (Euseb. Præp. Ev. l. 5. c. 17, et Plutarch de Oracul. defect. T. 2. p. 419.) From thence sailing for Ireland, the first land they could make would be the northern parts of the county of Donegal about the north cape, called by Ptolemy *Βορειον ακρον μοιρας*, whence they proceeded eastward, till they came to Fair Head in the county of Antrim, the utmost stretch of the northern coast east, then returned and coasted along the western shores of the island, thence along the southern, then returning by the eastern again to Fair Head, crossed the channel and ran down the western coasts of Britain to the south, and finished their circumnavigation of both the isles.

Ptolomy

Ptolomy thus describes the northern coasts :

Ἀρκτικῆς πλευρᾶς περιγραφῇ, ἣς ὑπέρκειται Ὠκεανός Ὑπερβόρειος. (Palat. addit.) ὁ αὐτός καλεῖται πεπηγώς Ὠκεανός, καὶ Κρονίος, ἢ νεκρός.

	Lon.	Lat.		Lon.	Lat.
Βόρειον ἄκρον μοίρας -	11.00	61.00	Ἀργίτα ποτ. ἐκβολαί -	14.30	61.30
Ὀυεννίκιον ἄκρον - -	12.50	61.20	Ῥαβόγδιον ἄκρον - -	16.20	61.30
Ὀυιδουα ποτ. ἐκβολαί -	13.00	61.00			

Παροικοῦσι δὲ τῇν πλευρᾶν, ἀπὸ μὲν δυσμῶν Ὀυεννέκνιοι. Ἔπειτα ἐφεξῆς καὶ τρὸς ἀνατολὰς Ῥαβόγδιοι.

Βόρειον ἄκρον, or the northern promontory, a name which it bears to this day, being north cape in the county of Donegal. Ware makes it Telen Head, a degree more south, which is not at all probable.

Ὀυεννικιον ἄκρον seems to be the *Bhen nigh nion* of the Irish, pronounced nearly Vennicnion, being the most northern headland of Innis Owen, in the county of Donegal, which still among the natives retains its ancient name.

Ὀυιδουα ποτ. ἐκβολαί seems to be Lough Foyle, the *Loch Faibhail* of the Irish.

Ἀργίτα

Ἀργίτα ποτ. ἐκβολαι, or mouth of the White River, most probably the *Abban Bán* of the Irish, the present River Ban in the county Antrim. Ware makes this Lough Foyle; and Camden Lough Swilly, though Ptolomy places it the most eastern river on the northern coast.

Ῥοβογδιον ἄκρον, as this cape, according to Ptolomy, is the most eastern point on the northern coast, it was probably Fair Head in the county of Antrim, the *Riabbachdagb* or fair cape of the Irish. Ware places it in Innis Owen, contrary to the assertion of Ptolemy.

Παροικῶνσι δὲ την, &c. that is, on the west of this (that is the coast) dwell the Venicnii. The Romans do not appear to have obtained the name of the inhabitants of this district, but to have called them from the neighbouring cape. They were the ancient inhabitants of the northern parts of the county of Donegal.

Ἔττα εφέξῃς και προς, &c. that is, the others on the east were the Robogdii. Here likewise the Romans did not obtain the real name of the inhabitants of the northern parts of the county of Antrim, but also denominated them from their principal cape, *Robogdii*, or the inhabitants of Fair Head.

PTOLOMY having described the northern coast, proceeds to the western, being the next, most probably, discovered by the Romans.

Δυτικῆς πλευρᾶς περιγραφὴ, ἣ παράκειται δυτικός ὠκεανός.

	Lon.	Lat.		Lon.	Lat.
Μετὰ τὸ βόρειον ἄκρον ὅ ἐστιν - - -	11.00	61.00	Ἀύσοβα ποτ. ἐκβολαί -	10.30	59.30
Ραουιῆ. ποτ. ἐκβολαί -	11.20	61.00	Σηρόν ποτ. ἐκβολαί -	9.30	9.30
Νάγνατα πόλις ἐπισήμος	11.15	60.15	Δούρ ποτ. ἐκβολαί - -	9.40	58.40
Λιβόριου ποτ. ἐκβολαί -	10.30	60.00	Ιέρνου ποτ. ἐκβολαί -	8.00	58.00
			Νότιον ἄκρον - - -	7.40	57.45

Ράουιου ποτ. ἐκβολαί. Though this river is placed by Ptolemy in the same latitude as the Vennicium Cape, yet it has a more western longitude; and was probably the *Abbuin Reabblangadh* of the Irish, the *Samarius* of Cambrensis, and *Trowis* of Spencer and Camden; the present mouth of the river Ern; which by the Irish was frequently denominated the bounding or leaping river, from the waterfal at Ballyshannon.

Νάγνατα πόλις ἐπισήμος, that is, the famous city of the Nagnatæ.

It is not certain what city this was, no such town being mentioned by any of the Irish writers. By its latitude and longitude it ought to be situated somewhere in the barony of Carbery and county of Sligo. It might be *Cnoc na teagh* or *Druimcliff*, which though at present only a desolated village, is said to have been in former times a large town, and
in

in subsequent periods, soon after the arrival of St. Patrick, an episcopal see.

Λιβόιου ποτ. ἐκβολαί, that is, the mouth of the river *Liboji* and the *Libnii* or *Limnii* of Pal. From the latitude and longitude this river seems to be the *Cluidb*, *Cluidbean* or *Cluibbagh* of the Irish, the present Clew Bay in the county of Mayo. Cambrensis calls it *Slichneium*, and with Baxter the bay of Sligo. Richard of Cirencester calls it *Labijs*, and Camden will have it the River Liffey; though Ptolemy is absolutely describing the western coasts.

Ἀύσόβα ποτ. ἐκβολαί. Ware and Baxter make this river Lough Corrib in the county of Galway, from whence proceeds the River Glavia. It seems to be the *Abhsidbe* or *Abbanfidbe* of the Irish, the present bay of Galway.

Σηγον ποτ. ἐκβολαί, latitude $9^{\circ} 30'$ in most copies, but there seems to be an error in the table, the latitude ought certainly to be $59^{\circ} 30'$, and by Orosius called *Sena*. It was certainly the *Seanan* of the Irish, the present mouth of the Shannon, as given by Baxter and Richard of Cirencester.

Δουρ ποτ. ἐκβολαί. Ware and Richard of Cirencester make this river the bay of Dingle, and Camden that of Tralee. It was probably the former, but the old Irish name is lost. *Dur* in old Irish and Welsh is water.

Ιερνου ποτ. ἐκβολαί. This is called by Richard of Cirencester *Iberus*, and by Ware is supposed to be Kenmare river; it was evidently *Abhuin Ibb Earnan* of the Irish, the present Bear Haven.

Νότιον ἄκρον or southern promontory. The Romans do not appear to have obtained the Irish name of this cape, but have denominated it from its situation. It was most probably the *Ben Moisaimh Beallen* and *Mullobbaghagh* of the Irish, the present Mizen Head. Ware calls it *Willen Head*, and Camden *Bear Head*.

Of the people inhabiting the western coast, Ptolemy thus speaks, beginning where he set out on the north west.

Παροικοῦσι δὲ τὴν πλευρὰν μετὰ τοῦς Ουεννικνίους, Ἑρδίνοι
 ὧφ' οὗς Νεγνᾶται
 Ἔϊτα Αὐτεροί
 Ἔϊτα Γαγγανοί
 ὧφ' οὗς Ουελαβοροι.

Ἑρδίνοι, in Edit. Pal. they are called ὀικαι Ἑρπεδίτανοι. Ware thinks they were the ancient inhabitants of the county of Fermanagh about Lough Erne. Richard calls them *Hardini*. They were the northern *Ernai* or *Eir Gall* of the Irish, and the ancient inhabitants of *Eir Dunnagh* or *Dal Eirnagh*, and called in the Ulster annals *Dalnarians*, comprehending the counties of Donegal, Fermanagh, Leitrim and Roscommon. By the
 old

old Irish poets, Keating, and other Irish Historians, they are denominated *Tuatba de Danann*, *Fir Domnann*, *Fir Galeon*, *Nemed* and *Fir Bolga*; or rather they were several tribes, under these names, of the *Fir Bolga*. Some learned men have imagined that they were of Gothic and Germanic origin, who settled in this island prior to the Christian æra. If so, they might not improbably be some of the tribes of the *Balcæ*, the ancient inhabitants of the southern coasts of the Baltic (Mela) extending from Jutland in the west to the river Niemen or *Nemed* on the east, comprehending a number of tribes under various denominations, as *Vast Ernai*, the *Bastarnæ* of Pliny; *Ira*, the *Hirri* of Pliny; the *Gyllen* of upper and lower Saxony, who also settled in Norway and Sweden under the several denominations of *Dief Gyllen*, *Fingyllen*, *Oestergyllen* and *Westergyllen*, and the *Dumna* in the Danish Isles. Wherefore the *Ερδνοι* of Ptolemy and *Ernai* of the Irish might be descendants from the *Vast Ernai* and *Ira*, and who were denominated also *Nemetbones* or *Nemedones*, from being settled on that river; and were the *Nemed* of the Irish. The *Gyllen* in general were the *Fir Galeon* of the Irish. The *Dieff Gyllen* were the *Dubb Gals* of the Irish; the *Fingyllen* the *Fin Gals* of the Irish. The *Oestergyllen* the *Oir Gals* and the *Westergyllen* the *Eir Gals* of the Irish. The *Dumna* or *Danæ*, were the *Fir Domnann* of the Irish. (For this compare Keating and other Irish historians with Pom. Mela, Pliny, Strabo, Snorro, Torfeus and other northerners.) These Gothic nations arrived in different periods at this island, that is

[H 2]

from

from three hundred years prior to the Christian æra, to the close of the tenth century.

Ναγνᾶται. The Nagnatæ, as observed before, were the ancient inhabitants of the barony of Carbury in the county of Sligo.

Ἀυτεροί. The Auteri, are supposed by Ware, to be the ancient inhabitants of the counties of Galway and Roscommon. They were evidently the ancient inhabitants of the Irish *Ibb Errus*, the present barony of *Erris* in the county of Mayo.

Γαγγανοί. Ware thinks them the ancient inhabitants of the southern parts of the county of Galway. The Romans do not seem to have obtained the real name of these people, but, as in other instances, to have denominated them from their principal headland, in Irish *Cean Gibhne*, pronounced Kan Ganné, that is Dog's Head, still retaining its ancient name. They were therefore the ancient inhabitants of Conmacnemarra in that county.

Ουελιβοροί. Edit. of Pal. has οικαι Ἐλλιβοροί. Ware thinks them the inhabitants of the northern parts of Kerry; but the Romans here also denominated them from their headland, in Irish *Beal Ibb Eiragh*. They were the inhabitants near Kerry head. In the neighbourhood of which Orosius places
the

the *Lucanos*, the ancient inhabitants of Lixnaw in the barony of Clanmorris in the county of Kerry.

THE Irish writers also place here the *Degadii*, whom they call the southern Ernai. They are supposed to be a colony from Spain of the tribe or nation of the *Iberii*. They are called in the poem of the battle of Sliabhmis and in other Irish poems *Dias Dhana* and *Sluagh adhbhal Easbaine*; and in the Ulster annals equally with the northern *Ernai Dalnarians*. If therefore they were a colony from Spain, they most probably arrived in periods subsequent to Ptolemy, and sometime in the eighth century. For the battle of Sliabhmis, according to the Ulster annals, was fought in the year 775. And being denominated *Dias Dhana*, southern foreigners or Danes, in opposition to *Tuatha de Danann* or northern foreigners or Danes in the same poem, and equally Dalnarians, they were most probably *Vandals*, who fled from the Saracens on their arrival in Spain. In this battle, said by Keating and others to be the first fought between the *Tuatha de Danann* and the Milesians from Spain, were slain O'Niall and Mc. Donnal, both chiefs of the northern Ernai; and also the monumental stones, said in the above poem to have been erected over the graves of the noble warriors, are still remaining on Mount *Gabirconree*, one of the Sliabhmis mountains in the county of Kerry.—(Smith's Kerry, Ulster annals.) But to return, Ptolemy having described the western coasts, doubles Notium Prom. and describes the southern coasts on the Vergivian ocean.

Τῆς ἐφεξῆς μεσημβρινῆς πλευρᾶς περιγραφή, ἣ παρακεῖται ὠκεανὸς Οὐεργινίος (Palat. Οὐεργινίος.)

	Lon.	Lat.		Lon.	Lat.
Μετὰ τὸ νοτιον ἄκρον ὃ ἐστίν - - -	7°.40	57.45	Βιργου ποτ. ἐκβολαὶ -	12.30	57.30
Δαβρῶνα ποτ. ἐκβολαὶ	11.15	57.00	Ἱερὸν ἄκρον - - -	14.00	57.30

Δαβρῶνα. This river Camden thinks is the river Lee or Cork river, which is also the opinion of Cambrensis, who calls it Saveranus. But it was most probably the *Dubb Riannagh* and *Abham mor* of the Irish; now Blackwater or Youghal river. Dubh Riannagh is pronounced Duvronna, nearly.

Βιργον, &c. Edit. Pal. Βαργον. This river appears to be the *Abban Barragh* or *Berbbagh* of the Irish, and the mouth of the present Barrow, at Waterford Haven, agreeable to Ware and most other writers.

Ἱερὸν ἄκρον. The Romans called this the Sacred Promontory, probably from some religious worship performed on it. It was called in Irish *Cean Grian Cradh*, now Greenore Point, and by Cambrensis denominated *Montem S. Dominici*.

OF the inhabitants of this coast, Ptolomy observes,

Παροικοῦσι δὲ τὴν πλευρὰν μετα τοὺς Ουελλαβόρους Ουτερνοί,
Ἵπὲρ οὗς Ουοδιαί.
Καὶ ἀνατολικώτεροι, Βριγώντες.

Ουτερνοί Pal. Ιουερνοί. Ware thinks them the inhabitants of Desmond. They being denominated *Iberni*, *Iberi*, and *Juërne*, were most probably the *Ibb Faragh* of the Irish, the ancient inhabitants about Bear Haven, and the southern parts of the county of Kerry, and a part of the southern Ennai.

Ουοδιαί. Ware makes these the ancient inhabitants of the counties of Cork, Limerick and Tipperary. The ancient name of this district is lost; they were probably the inhabitants of Corcaluighe, containing the southern parts of the present county of Cork.

Βριγώντες. Ware makes these the inhabitants of the counties of Carlow, Kilkenny, and the Queen's County. But no such name is mentioned by the Irish. The Romans therefore probably denominated them from their neighbouring river *Brigus* or *Bargus*, if they did not mistake *Brigus* for Brigantes, a nation in Britain. They seem to be the ancient inhabitants of the county of Waterford, called by the Irish *Hy Breoghan*, and the inhabitants *Breaghnach* or *Breoghnach*, that is *Breatnach* or Britons. Admitting therefore that they extended farther inland, they might be the *aboriginals* from Britain, before the
arrival

arrival of the *Ernai*, *Heremonii*, and other Gothic tribes. But of this there is no certainty. However that the *Breoghnach* were Britons, is in some measure evinced from the mountains near which they dwelt in the county of Waterford, being denominated *Cummeragh* or Welsh Mountains to this day.

OF the eastern coasts Ptolomy thus speaks

Ανατολικῆς πλευρᾶς περιγραφῇ, ἣ παράκειται Ωκεανός καλουμένος Ιουερνιος.

	Lon.	Lat.		Lon.	Lat.
Μετὰ το ἱερὸν ἄκρον ὃ ἐστὶ - - - -	14.00	57.30	Βουουινδα ποτ. ἐκβολαὶ -	14.49	59.40
Μοδονου ποταμοῦ ἐκβο- λαὶ - - - -	13.40	58.40	Ισαμνίου ἀκρον - -	15.00	60.00
Μαναπία πόλις - -	13.30	58.40	Ουινδέρμιος ποτ. ἐκβολαὶ -	15.00	60.15
Οβοκα ποτ. ἐκβολαὶ -	13.12	59.00	Λογία ποτ. ἐκβολαὶ -	15.20	60.40
Ἐβλανα πόλις - -	14.00	59.30	Μεθ' ὅς το Ροβογδίου ἀκ- ρόν - - - -		

Μοδονου, &c. Ware supposes this river to be the present Slany, and harbour of Wexford; it was therefore the *Abbuin Maidoc* of the Irish.

Μαναπία πόλις. Neither Camden, Ware, Baxter, or other modern writers, have been able to ascertain the true situation of this city, placing it at Waterford, Wexford or Wicklow; but hav-
ing

ing the same latitude, and only 10' difference of longitude with Modonius, it was most probably somewhere on that river. Ptolomy has not obtained the real Irish name, which was *Lough Garman*, which the Danes of the 9th century translated into *Waesford*, now Wexford; and improperly called the city of the Manapii, which was *Choille Mantann* or *Lough Garchon*, now Wicklow.

Οβoκα ποτ εκβολαι. This river still retains its ancient name, being called in Irish *Oboca* or *Ovoca*, and is the present river of Arklow.

*Εβλανα πολις. This city has been supposed by Richard of Cirencester, Camden, Ware and others, to be Dublin, from the idea that *Eblana* is the same as *Dubbleana*. Ptolomy by his latitudes places it $\frac{3}{4}$ of the distance between the rivers Οβoκα and Βουουινδα, that is the Arklow and Boyne rivers, which is the real situation of Rush harbour. An harbour in former ages much frequented by foreign traders. Ptolemy indeed doth not mention the city by its real name, but only calls it the city of the *Blanii*. It possibly may be Dublin, though I am rather inclined to think it was near Rush, perhaps Lusk, which is said to be an ancient city, and erected into a bishopric soon after St. Patrick, and anciently denominated *Luscán*, in Latin *Luscanum*. As to Dublin, the word is probably not of Irish but Teutonic origin, for the Norwegians and Danes who settled in this island called it *Diflin* and *Divelin*, from whom the Irish denominated it *Dubblean*, and the Welch *Dinas Dulin*, but

the indigenous name in Irish was always as at this day *Black* or *Ballicleath* and *Balliathcliath*. It was therefore most probably founded by some of the northern nations, but in what period uncertain.

Βουουηδα ποτ. εκβολαι. This river is evidently the *Abban Boand* or *Abhuin Bouind* of the Irish, the present river *Boyne*, agreeable to the assertions of Ware, Camden and others.

Ισαμνιον ακρον. Thought by Ware, Camden and Baxter, to be St. John's Point in the county of Down; the Irish name is now lost.

Ουινδέριος ποτ. εκβολαι. Thought by Ware and Baxter to be the bay of Carrickfergus, but was rather the *Aban Daragh* or *Loch Cuan* of the Irish, the present bay of Strangford.

Λογια ποτ. εκβολαι. Thought by Ware to be Lough Neagh and Ban river, and by Baxter Lough Foyle; but Ptolomy is describing the eastern, not the northern coasts. It most probably was the *Loch Guis* or *Bella Fearfad* of the Irish, the present bay of Carrickfergus.

PTOLOMY now speaks of the people inhabiting the eastern coasts, in doing which he returns, beginning at the north and proceeds to the south.

Παρασκευας

Παροικουσι δὲ τὴν πλαυρὰν ταύτην μετὰ τοὺς Ροβογδιους.

Δαρνιοι

Εἴτα Καυκοι

Ἵφ' οὓς Ουολουντιοι

Ἵφ' οὓς Μανναπιοι

Εἴτα Βλανιοι

Εἴτα Κοριονδοι υπὲρ τοὺς Βριγαντας.

Δαρνιοι, Edit. Pal. Δαρινοι. Ware thinks these were the ancient inhabitants of the counties of Londonderry, Antrim and Tyrone. They were probably the ancient inhabitants of the Irish *Dairanii*, *Dairecalgaic*, *Dal Rieta*, *Dal na Ruidhe* and *Dalriada*, the southern parts of the county of Antrim. Richard of Cirencester places here the *Damnii*, who are thought to be of Germanic or Gothic origin, though immediately from Britain. They might be descended from the Saxon tribes *Reudigni* and *Dumna*. As we find a tribe by the Irish called *Rudrici* settled in the counties of Armagh and Monaghan.

Ουολουντιοι. These seem to be the ancient inhabitants of *Ulagh*, *Uladh* or *Ulidia*, the present county of Down, agreeable to Ware and others; they are also thought to be of Gothic origin, and settled here under *Ulagh*, a Goth or Norwegian, sometime before the Christian æra. (Vide Harris's Down, Keating, &c.)

Βλανιοι. Edit. Pal. Εβλανοι. Thought by Ware and Baxter to be the ancient inhabitants of the counties of Meath and Dublin. They were the inhabitants of the Irish *Almeanna* or *Almain*, containing the maritime coasts from the Boyne to the Liffey

(vide book of Lecan.) This district was also called *Acibb Leanna*, from whence not improbable the *Βλανιοι* of Ptolemy and *Εβλανοι* of Pal. There is some appearance of these also being of Gothic origin; perhaps descended from the *Almanni*, a tribe of the *Hermionii* or Germans (vide Pliny and Tacitus), and who were denominated by the Irish *Heremonii* and *Eiream-boin* (vide Keating, O'Connor).

Καυκοι. These are thought by Ware to be the ancient inhabitants of the counties of Kildare and Wicklow. They were the inhabitants of *Atha Cuacdbagh* or *Atacdii*, the maritime parts of the county of Dublin south of the Liffey (vide book of Lecan.) These too are thought by Ware to be of Germanic origin, and descendants from the *Chaucii*, a tribe of the *Hermionii*, *Hecrmanii*, *Garmanii* or Germans (vide Ortelii Thesaur Geogr. in Chaucis, et Pliny.)

Μαιαπιοι. Ware thinks these the ancient inhabitants of the counties of Wexford; they seem to be those of *Acibb Mantann* or *Ibb Garchon*, a maritime district near Wicklow. Camden and Ware think them the descendants of the Belgic Menapii.

Εἴτα Κοριονδοι υπερ τούς Βριναυτας. These are thought by Ware to be the ancient inhabitants of the counties of Cork, Limerick and Tipperary, but Ptolemy is speaking of the eastern coasts, not the southern or midland parts. But what led Ware into this mistake was probably reading Ptolemy. *After the Coriondii above the Brigantes are the inland cities*, instead of, *Afterwards the*

the Coriondii above the Brigantes. The inland cities are. They were most probably the Carimandii of Ibb German, a maritime district near Wexford. They were also denominated Martinii and Moragh, and were probably Britons, for the mountains on the west of the county are denominated in Irish Sliabh Breaghnach or British mountains to this day.

THE Irish called this county, and also all the south of Leinster, *Lagean*, and the inhabitants *Ligmanii*, who are said also to be *Heremonii* and *Gallians* or *Goillens*. They might therefore not improbably be of Germanic origin, as the *Lygii* or *Lygmanii* were a tribe of the *Hermionii* or *Gyllen*, in Germany. (Book of Lecan, Keating, O'Connor, Pliny, Tacitus, Cluverius, &c.)

PTOLEMY having thus finished his description of the maritime coasts, treats of the internal parts as far as then known; but which knowledge extended only to a few cities or the residence of chiefs..

Πολεις δε εισι μεσογειοι.

	Lon.	Lat.		Lon.	Lat.
Ριγια - - - -	13.00	60.20	Ετερα Ριγια - - -	11.00	59.30
Ραιβα - - - -	12.00	58.54	Δουνον - - - -	12.20	58.45
Λαβερος - - -	13.00	59.51	Ιουρνης - - - -	11.00	58.10
Μακολικον - - -	11.30	58.40			

Ριγια

Ρηγία. This city is supposed by Mercator to be Limerick, and by Camden near Lough Ree. By its latitude and longitude in Ptolemy's tables, it appears to be *Eamania* or *Eamhan*, situated near Armagh, and at present called *Rath n'Eavan*, or the fort of Navan, whose remains consist of a circular intrenchment of considerable extent.

Ραιβα. The latitude of this city is in some copies $56^{\circ} 54'$, but as no part of the island according to Ptolemy's tables, is in so low a latitude, it is evidently wrong, and other copies which have it $58^{\circ} 54'$ seem to be right. It is justly by Ware and Camden supposed to be *Reban*, situated on the Barrow near Athy. There are still remaining a large rath, and the ruins of a castle, built by Michael Lord of *Reban* in the reign of king John.

Λαβερος. This city is supposed by Ware to be *Cenanus* or *Canenus*, the present Kells in the county of Meath. It is evidently the celebrated *Tara* or *Teamhra*, called also *Labhradh*. On the hill of Tara still remains some circular raths and other remains of antiquity.

Μακολικον. Mercator and Camden will have this city to be *Malc* or *Milick* on the Shannon, but no such name exists. Baxter thinks it Kilkenny. By its situation according to Ptolemy, it was most probably the *Cancora* of the Irish, the capital and residence of the chiefs of Thomond, situated near Kilkilroe, where there still remains a large rath or intrenchment.

Ετερά

Ἑρεῶα Πύγια or *another Regia*. Camden thinks this situated in Lough Derg in the county of Donegal, where St. Patrick's purgatory was; and Camden thinks it Athenry in the county of Galway; but from the situation in Ptolemy's tables it seems to be the *Grogban* of the Irish, the ancient capital of Conaught, situated between Boyle and Elphin in the county of Roscommon. There are still remaining a rath and an ancient cemetery, called by the natives *Rioligb na Righ*.

Δουνον. From Ptolemy's tables, this city and Παῖβα were not far from each other; yet Camden will have it to be Downpatrick in the county of Down; whilst Ware very justly thinks it *Dunnamaes* in the Queen's county, the ancient seat of the chieftains of Leix, situated on an isolated rock, where still remains the ruins of a castle built by Lord Pembroke in 1216. In respect to *Dunum* and *Reban* there seems an error in Ptolemy's tables, that is, the latitude and longitude of Reban is given to Dunum, and vice versa.

Ιουρνις Edit. Pal. Ἰερνις. According to Richard of Cirencester there were two *Ibernia*, one he places on the east side of the Shannon, the other on the Blackwater, the port of *Insovenach*. The former being an inland city was most probably the *Ιουρνις* of Ptolemy, and thought by Whitaker to be *Cahir* near Bruff in the county of Limerick, where there still remains some raths, cromlecs and other monuments of antiquity.

PTOLEMY having thus finished his description of both the maritime and inland parts of Ireland, speaks of the islands which surround it. Among which he includes several of the western isles of Scotland under the name of Εβουρα. But I shall only treat of those which more properly appertain to this island, as

	Lon.	Lat.		Lon.	Lat.
Ρικινά - - - -	15.40	62.00	Εδρου Ἐρημος - - -	15.00	57.30
Μονα Νῆσος - -	15.00	57.40	Λιμνου Ἐρημος - -	15.00	59.00

Ρικινά. This island is evidently the isle of *Rachlin* or *Raghlín* the *Ricnea* of Pliny on the coast of Antrim.

Μον Νῆσος. This is evidently the isle of Anglesea in Wales, but by Ptolemy brought too near Ireland, who calls also the isle of Man *Μοναυίδα* or *Μοναρινά* according to some MSS.

Εδρου Edit. Pal. Ὀδρου. This is called by Pliny *Andros*, and by Ware is justly supposed to be *Beg Eri* on the coast of Wexford.

Λιμνου. Ware justly supposes this to be *Lambey* on the coast of the county of Dublin.

Thus I have endeavoured to explain Ptolemy, in respect to his geography of this kingdom. If these comments on one of the



